

Maine Bureau of Highway Safety  
*Partnership Newsletter*

[www.maine.gov/dps/bhs](http://www.maine.gov/dps/bhs)

207-626-3840

March 2007

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***Thank You Maine Law Enforcement***

***In 2006 Maine Law Enforcement participated in the following educational and enforcement programs with us:***

**Maine's "Buckle Up, No Excuses"  
in conjunction with the national "Click It or Ticket" program**

4,186 Officer hours  
12,719 Vehicles stopped  
1,713 Written Summons for Safety Belts

**Maine's Summer OUI program  
in conjunction with the national "Drunk Driving, Over the Limit,  
Under Arrest" program**

4,504 Officer hours  
13,935 Vehicles stopped  
280 OUI Arrests

**Maine's Speed Grant**

2,292 Officer hours  
6,307 Vehicles stopped  
3,312 Speed Arrest Summons



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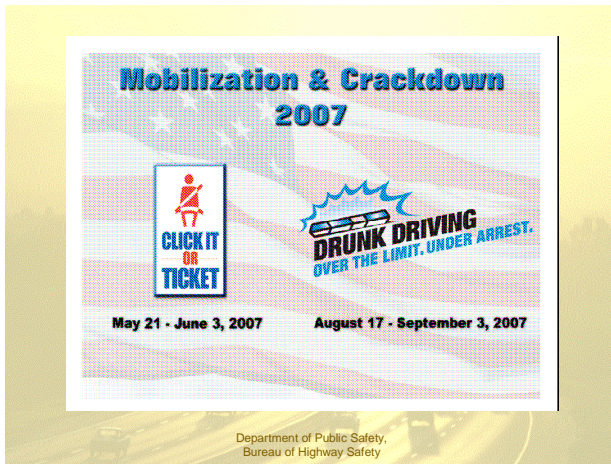
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## 2007 Mobilization Dates

Mark these dates on your 2007 calendar!



*Please look for applications for participation in your mail.*

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Buckle Up. No Excuses! Grant applications were sent to all law enforcement in mid February. Applications are due by March 31, 2007. If you did not get your application, please call our office at 626-3840.

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## For A "Good Read" check out NHTSA Traffic Safety Fact Sheets, 2005 Data



Latest NHTSA data available on the following subjects:

*Overview*  
*Alcohol*  
*Bicyclists*  
*Children*  
*Large Trucks*  
*Motorcycles*  
*Occupant Protection*  
*Older Population*  
*Pedestrians*  
*School Transportation Related Crashes*  
*Speeding*  
*State Alcohol Estimates*  
*Young Drivers*

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/>

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*12 Months of Safety  
You Hold the Key!*

*March is Share the Road With A Truck*



Maine police and the Maine Turnpike Authority today began handing out bookmarks with a highway safety message. The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety created and funded the \$20,000 project, aimed at a new message each month. Today, the first of 50,000 bookmarks with a safe trucking theme began to be distributed. Work zone and districted drivers will be the theme for April, followed by motorcycle and bicycle safety in May, and seat belts in June. Highway Safety Director Lauren Stewart said the bookmarks are being handed out at Maine police departments, by toll takers along the Maine Turnpike, at Maine driving classes and by the Maine Motor Transport Association, the group that represents the Maine trucking industry. State Police Lt. Tom Kelly, the head of Troop K's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit, said this month's message -- sharing the road with a truck—advises motorists of truck's blind spots and their increased stopping distance and turning radius.

Stewart said, "This is a unique way of getting a highway safety message into thousands of Maine homes and businesses on an item that is likely to be kept." Among the groups taking part in the project are State Police, Maine Chiefs of Police Association, Maine Sheriff's Association, Maine

Department of Transportation and the Maine Turnpike Authority.

More information on truck safety is available from the Maine Motor Transport's web site -- [www.mmta.com](http://www.mmta.com) or Highway Safety is at 626-3840 and Lt. Kelly at 624-8932

*Welcome Laura Nichols*



Laura Nichols joined the Bureau of Highway Safety in December to be our new Office Associate. She comes to us from the Department of Corrections. Laura is happy to be working with everyone here, and is looking forward to learning more about the partnerships and programs that operate at Highway Safety.

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**AARP Announces Launch of In-Classroom  
Driver Safety Course Edition 6**

AARP has launched the latest version of its in-classroom driver safety program, edition 6. To ensure 50+ drivers stay safe behind the wheel, the course's curriculum has been updated to reflect the most current driving information and safety tips available.

For information on local courses, please call **1-888-227-7669** or visit AARP at [www.aarp.org/drive](http://www.aarp.org/drive).

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***Always Looking for a Good Idea  
or Project!***



If you are a state, local or Indian tribal government agency or a non-profit organization, we are always open to ideas or projects that reduce injuries and fatalities on our roads and highways in Maine. It is never too early to discuss future projects.

Call us at the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety offices @ 207- 626-3840 with your idea or project.

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***New Partnership Works to  
Save More Lives on Maine's  
Highways***



The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety, MaineDOT and the Maine Turnpike Authority have formed an alliance to educate Maine drivers on such highway safety issues as safety belts, excessive speed and driver distraction. The first communications initiative from this new partnership of state departments and agencies is a television campaign promoting the use of safety belts. The campaign is launched in February on TV stations across the state.

**CONTACTS**

Dan Paradee, Maine Turnpike Authority  
207-871-7771 Ext. 117

Lauren Stewart, Maine Bureau of Highway Safety,  
207-626-3840

Brad Foley, MaineDOT  
207-624-3359

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## *MTSC Meeting on Child Passenger Safety*



In the photo: Brad Foley, Harvey Boatman, Steve Greeley, Betty Mason, Jennifer Paul, Katharyn Zwicker, Michelle Ward, Gregory Stone, Carl Hallman and the "cutest little training dolls ever".

The MTSC offers opportunities to learn about a different subject each month. Betty Mason, the CPS Coordinator for the state attended the meeting and provided a brief overview of CPS in Maine including an overview of the steps parents should take to keep their children safe in the family vehicle starting with a rear-facing infant carrier to a belt positioning booster seat. In addition, she shared the availability of CPS Training in Maine that ranges from four-hour awareness sessions to the CPS Technician Certification courses. Mason also highlighted a new program being offered in Maine that provides technical assistance and guidance to school departments and pre-schools needed to transport pre-school aged children and children with special health care needs on school vehicles.

The Maine Child Passenger Safety Seat Program provided over 2,000 car seats to Maine families between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2006. Car seats are available to families who cannot otherwise afford a car seat at 37 sites throughout the state at no dollar cost. However, parents are required to attend a class on using the car seat properly.

Each program site has a certified child passenger safety technician on their staff to help parents understand the reasons for using the appropriate car seat for their child's height, weight, and age and to teach the parents to fit their child to the car seat and install the car seat in their own vehicles.

For further information contact Maine Injury Prevention Program at 1-800-698-3624 Extension 4288.

## *Child Passenger Safety Week at Maine Mall*



In the photo: South Portland Police Officer Bob Libby with Vince & Larry, Crash Test Dummies, and Bucklebear

In celebration of National Child Passenger Safety Week (February 11-17), Safe Kids Maine collaborated with several agencies to conduct an interactive exhibit at The Maine Mall in South Portland on Saturday, February 10, 2007. Partners for the event included the South Portland Police Department, Pape Chevrolet, PROP (Peoples Regional Opportunities Program) and Barbara Bush Children's Hospital..

The event was aimed at young "tweens" (children ages 8 to 10) and their parents to help raise awareness about four vehicle safety issues: 1) safety belt fit; 2) Spot the Tot (vehicle blind spots while backing up); 3) trunk entrapment; 4) never leave a child alone in a vehicle. Children who participated were given a "safety passport" for each exhibit.

Once completed, they were entered into a raffle to win a free Cars movie. Several families participated and lots of information was distributed. Safe Kids Maine continued the celebration by conducting three car seat inspection stations in Auburn, Falmouth and Windham during NCPS Week. For more information about Safe Kids Maine, visit

[www.safekidsmaine.org](http://www.safekidsmaine.org)

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*Disaster Planning Includes Funeral Directors*



Everyone who visits our Augusta offices asks about this trailer in our parking lot.

So we contacted Mike Murphy from the Maine Funeral Directors Association and he informs me this unit is part of the MEMA Disaster Plan. It contains a portable, temporary morgue and a command and communications center. There are 35 Funeral Directors who are a part of the team ready to respond to disasters in Maine. They all hope it never needs to be used, but is available if necessary. It's in our parking lot for a short time waiting for a permanent covered storage.

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*Welcome FARS to Maine*



In December FARS experts from Washington participated in a review of Maine procedures. From left to right. VaShawn Guice, Regional Manager FARS, Catherine Downs FARS Team Leader, Carl Hallman and Michelle Ward from MeBHS.

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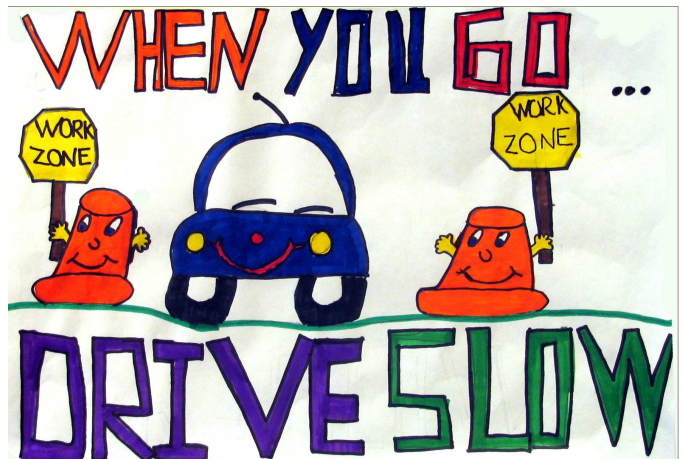
*Buckle Up. No Excuses!*



**Monster Jam In Maine—6<sup>th</sup> Annual**

- **Date:** June 7-9, 2007
- **Location:** Speedway 95 in Bangor
- **Performances:** 4
- **Estimated Attendance:** 14,000

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To submit articles for publication contact the Bureau of Highway Safety's  
office at 207-626-3840 or email [johnny.male@maine.gov](mailto:johnny.male@maine.gov)  
Editor, Johnny Male

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